

Appln No. 10/816,650
Amdt date May 5, 2005
Reply to Office action of March 21, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An enclosed litter box, comprising:
a chassis comprising an end opening comprising an end edge;
a removable litter tray comprising a first end and a second end slidably coupled to the chassis such that the first end moves away from the end edge while the second end moves closer to the end edge when the litter tray is moved relative to the end opening;
a manual rake located within the removable litter tray; and
an enclosure mounted to the chassis enclosing the removable litter tray and rake.
2. (Original) The enclosed litter box of claim 1, the removable litter tray further comprising an integral handle having a downwardly facing opening.
3. (Currently amended) The enclosed litter box of claim 1, the enclosure further including a notched recess for engaging a hook portion of a scoop for scooping litter to form a gravity lock with the scoop.
4. (Original) The enclosed litter box of claim 4, wherein the scoop further includes a notched blade for engagement with a tined portion of the manual rake.
5. (Original) The enclosed litter box of claim 2, the removable litter tray further comprising:
a transverse groove on an upper rim of a front portion of the removable litter tray; and

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an opening between a bottom surface of the groove and an interior portion of the integral handle whereby a user may dislodge a handle portion of the manual rake held in the transverse groove.

6. (Original) The enclosed litter box of claim 1, wherein the enclosure further comprises:
an outer surface; and

an adhesive label having a decorative motif on an outer surface is adhered to the outer surface of the enclosure.

7. (Original) The enclosed litter box of claim 6, wherein:
the enclosure outer surface further includes a decorative background; and
the adhesive label includes a transparent substrate whereby the decorative motif of the enclosure outer surface is visible through the adhesive label when the adhesive label is adhered to the enclosure.

8. (Currently amended) An enclosed litter box, comprising:
a chassis means for supporting the enclosed litter box;
a slidably removable litter tray means within the chassis means for holding litter; said slidably removable litter tray means slidably movable relative to the chassis means while maintaining physical contact, either directly or indirectly, to the chassis means during at least a portion of the movement;
a manual rake means located within the removable litter tray means for separating animal waste from the litter; and
an enclosure means coupled to the chassis means for enclosing the removable litter tray means and the rake means.

9. (Original) The enclosed litter box of claim 8, the removable litter tray means further comprising a integral handle means having a downwardly facing opening for use in pulling the removable litter tray means from the chassis means.

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10. (Original) The enclosed litter box of claim 9, the removable litter tray means further comprising:

holding means for holding the manual rake means in a detachable manner; and
dislodging means for a user to manually dislodge the manual rake from the holding means without exposing the user to an interior portion of the removable litter tray means.

11. (Original) The enclosed litter box of claim 10, further comprising means for adhering a decorative label to an outer surface of the enclosure means.

12. (Original) The enclosed litter box of claim 8, the enclosure means further comprising a gravity lock means for removably attaching a scoop means to the enclosure means.

13. (Original) The enclosed litter box of claim 12, wherein the scoop means further comprises a notched blade for engagement with a tined portion of the manual rake means.

14. (New) An enclosed litter box, comprising:
a chassis comprising two side walls and an end wall;
a removable litter tray comprising an end wall, a first tray position, and a second tray position slidably coupled to the chassis;
an enclosure mounted to the chassis enclosing the removable litter tray;
wherein the first tray position comprises the litter tray end wall spaced apart from the chassis end wall by a first distance;
wherein the second tray position comprises moving the litter tray relative to the chassis such that the litter tray end wall is spaced apart from the chassis end wall by a second distance, which is greater than the first distance; and
wherein the enclosure and the chassis maintain contact during the second tray position.

15. (New) The enclosed litter box of claim 14, further comprising a rake comprising a handle.

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16. (New) The enclosed litter box of claim 14, further comprising a groove on an end of the litter tray.

17. (New) The enclosed litter box of claim 16, further comprising a rake comprising a handle, said handle coupled to the groove.

18. (New) The enclosed litter box of claim 14, further comprising a handle for slidably moving the litter tray.

19. (New) The enclosed litter box of claim 14, further comprising a scoop for scooping litter.

20. (New) The enclosed litter box of claim 14, wherein the chassis comprises a base and the litter tray comprises a base; wherein the base of the litter tray abuts the base of the chassis.